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(TDD)



## **Department of Workforce Development**

Joseph E. Kernan, Governor Alan D. Degner, Commissioner 10 North Senate Avenue Indianapolis, IN 46204-2277

# **Advance Indiana**



Lifelong Learning for Indiana's Workforce



The Advance Indiana grant is designed to provide financial assistance to companies and organizations committed to expanding the skills of its existing workforce through training programs that result in industry-recognized credentials.

# **Eligible Companies**

This grant opportunity is focused on Hoosier companies or organizations that are within the state's four targeted industry clusters:

## **Advanced Manufacturing**

Today's manufacturing environment is continuously changing and the industry has grown to include not only automotive and electronics manufacturers, but aerospace technology, robotics and engineering design technology firms as well. And as manufacturing processes become more sophisticated, a highly skilled workforce is essential.

#### **Life Sciences**

Encompassing a wide array of business, such as health care services, medical device manufacturers and agribusiness, Indiana's life sciences sector is rapidly expanding. The Advance Indiana grant can help provide training that is essential for success in this competitive field.

## 21st Century Logistics

Known as "The Crossroads of America," Indiana is within a day's drive of 65 percent of the nation's population, positioning Indiana to be the warehousing and distribution hub of the country. Through the years, logistics firms have become more reliant on technology to make the shipping of their products more efficient. The increased complexities of this industry sector require a workforce that is on the cutting-edge of technology training.

## **Information Technology**



Information technology is the backbone for each of these industries and contributes to increased productivity, scientific breakthrough and overall success. The Advance Indiana grant assists firms – involved in such activities as software development, fiber optics or certified network administration – to sustain and enhance the talent of their workforce.

# **Eligible Training Activities**

All training activities must result in a portable, transferable skill credential for incumbent Hoosier workers. This may include nationally recognized industrial certification, college degrees, Certificates of Technical Achievement, apprenticeships and specialized certifications resulting from college credit. However, certificates of completion or other in-house produced certification are not widely recognized and thus, are not eligible for this grant opportunity. Training programs must also demonstrate an impact on the local economy and contribute to the advancement of Indiana's workforce. Seminar-type training is not covered by this grant.

## **About the Grant**

The Advance Indiana Grant carries a maximum award of \$200,000 and requires, at a minimum, an equal in-kind or cash match. Employee training on the clock is encouraged and the salaries and benefits of the trainees may be applied toward the employer match.

The grant has a two-year term and covers only those costs related to tuition, textbooks and instructor fees. Administration charges may be requested only when the applicant is acting as an administrator for an alliance of employers.

Applications are reviewed monthly on a competitive basis and must be received no later than the first business day of each month. An approved contract must be fully executed before training may begin. Applicants are encouraged to allow 60 days before an anticipated start date for training. Companies applying for this grant must be in good standing with the state.

Once the grant is awarded, grantees must submit quarterly program reports that describe progress toward meeting the desired outcomes.

Grant applications are available on-line at www.advanceindiana.lN.gov